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ABSTRACT

Tech prep programs integrate academic, occupational, and employability during the last 2 years of high school and the first 2 years of college, combining the best of college-prep academics with the best of vocational and technical education. The Ohio Tech Prep program, jointly administered by the Ohio Board of Regents and the Ohio Department of Education, includes 26 tech prep consortia involving the following: 44 public colleges and universities, all community and technical colleges, all vocational educational planning districts, more than 400 of Ohio's 611 public school districts, and more than 600 community and government organizations, businesses, industries, and labor unions. Ohio's tech prep program offers programs in five career clusters (business and management, environmental and agricultural systems, arts and communications, industrial and engineering systems, and health services) encompassing 60 occupational pathways. Progress is being made toward reaching the four goals of the tech prep program: (1) building a seamless education path by creating 11 new associate degree programs and 60 occupational pathways through an innovative curriculum development process; (2) expanding the enrollment of tech prep students to serve Ohio's labor market needs; (3) ensuring that teaching and learning reflect the needs of all students; and (4) maximizing the opportunities afforded by all relevant initiatives, resources, and participating partners. The Ohio tech prep program has received national and state recognition. (KC)

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ED 429 209

# TECH PREP

A great way to build a career.
A great way to get career skills.
A great way to go to college.

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# Ohio Progress Report
## March 1999

CE058457

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# TECH PREP INITIATIVE

Tech Prep provides students with advanced knowledge and technical skills for college and work. It prepares students for the "high tech" occupations of today and tomorrow. Tech Prep links secondary education with higher education leading to advanced skills and an associate degree.

From the outset, Ohio viewed Tech Prep as a long-term strategy for systemic educational change that integrates the last two years of high school with the first two years of college. Tech Prep curricula combine the best of college-prep academics taught in a contextual manner with the best of vocational and technical education. Tech Prep makes learning relevant and interesting.

Educators and employers work together to develop carefully planned programs of study. The competency-based Tech Prep programs are designed jointly among business, industry, and labor representatives along with high school and college faculty. Tech Prep curricula are sequenced to provide a seamless transition that avoids duplication of course work from high school to college. Tech Prep programs are structured to meet current and emerging labor market needs and provide options for students as they prepare for their future.

The Tech Prep program integrates academic, occupational, and employability competencies at both the high school and college levels.

## WHAT MAKES OHIO's TECH PREP PROGRAM UNIQUE?

- Business - Industry - Labor partners define student competencies necessary to succeed in their industries.

- Secondary and postsecondary educators determine when competencies are addressed.

- Math, science, and communications are taught using applied inquiry methodology.

- Students develop lifelong problem-solving skills.

- Students prepare for high demand, high pay, and "high tech" careers by combining academic and technical lab courses.

- Flexible programs and educational pathways provide students with options in career planning and educational opportunities.

- Tech Prep curricula increase student competence in math, science, communications, and technology.

- Ohio's Tech Prep program is jointly administered by the Ohio Board of Regents and the Ohio Department of Education.

# TECH PREP STRUCTURE

Ohio has 26 Tech Prep consortia comprised of:

- Secondary School Districts
- Vocational Education Planning Districts
- Colleges and Universities
- Businesses and Industries
- Labor Organizations
- Government and Community Organizations

These 26 Tech Prep consortia in Ohio, involve:

**44**
public colleges
and universities,
including
all community and
technical colleges (23)

**All**
vocational educational
planning districts

**More than** 400 of Ohio's 611
public school districts

**More than** 600
community and government organizations,
businesses, industries, and labor unions

# TECH PREP PROGRAMS

## Mission

Tech Prep will prepare students for technology-based careers demanded by the increasingly competitive world economy.

## Cluster Programs

Currently Tech Prep offers programs in five career clusters. The following list details a few of the 60 Tech Prep occupational pathways currently available in Ohio.

### *BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT*

- Microcomputer Applications Specialist
- Network Systems Technician
- Telecommunications Specialist

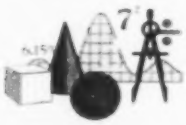
### *ENVIRONMENTAL & AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS*

- Landscape Designer/Manager
- Pollution Control Technician
- Water Resource Management

### *ARTS & COMMUNICATIONS*

- Graphic Imaging Specialist
- Interactive Media Specialist

### *INDUSTRIAL & ENGINEERING SYSTEMS*



- CADD Technician
- Electronics Technician
- Quality Control Technician

### *HEALTH SERVICES*

- Pharmacy Technologist
- Physical Therapist Assistant
- Radiographer

# TECH PREP GOALS

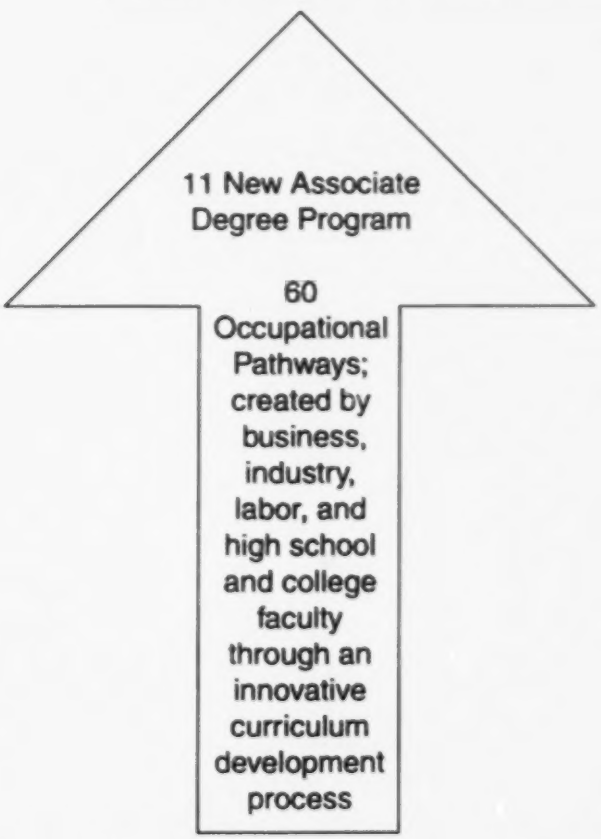
The four goals of the Ohio Tech Prep Strategic Plan are described on the following pages and include the progress made toward each goal.

## GOAL 1

Provide a seamless education path, including early career exploration, starting in secondary school and leading to an associate degree with expanded and enhanced competencies beyond current secondary school and associate degree programs.

## PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL 1

**Building Blocks on the Tech Prep Seamless Educational Pathway**

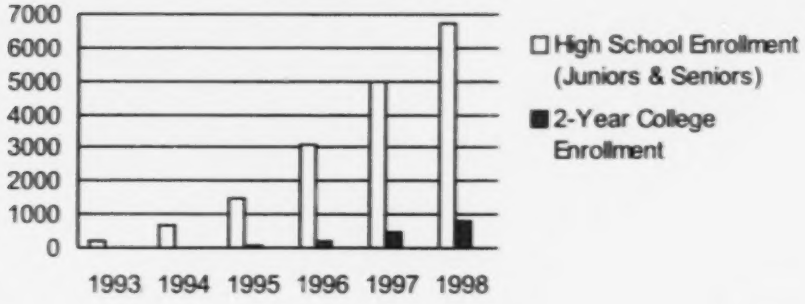

11 New Associate Degree Program
60 Occupational Pathways; created by business, industry, labor, and high school and college faculty through an innovative curriculum development process

# GOAL 2

Expand the enrollment of Tech Prep students to better serve Ohio's labor market needs.

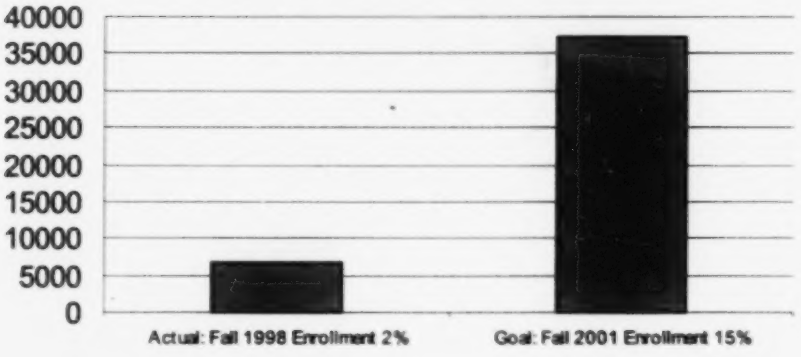
## PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL 2

**Statewide Tech Prep Enrollment Growth**
**Fall 1993 - Fall 1998**




➔ 15% of all 11th and 12th grade students in public education will be enrolled in Tech Prep by the year 2001.

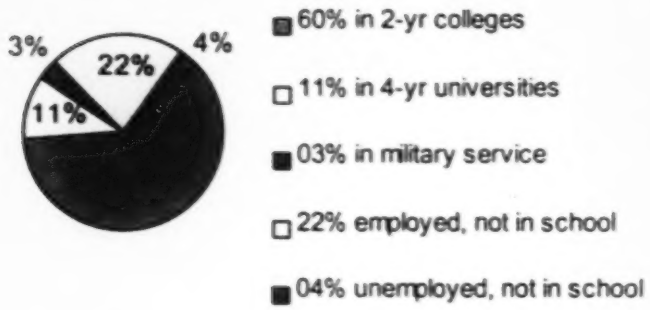
**Statewide Actual & Projected Enrollment**
**of 11th and 12th Grade Students**



## PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL 2

➔ 66% of students completing the high school portion of Tech Prep will directly enroll in state-assisted colleges and universities by the year 2002.

**June 1997 - 569 Tech Prep High School Graduates**
**Follow-up Status**




➔ 25% of students enrolled in Tech Prep will be from groups traditionally underrepresented in technology-based careers.

**June 1997 - 507 Tech Prep High School Students**
**Random Sample**

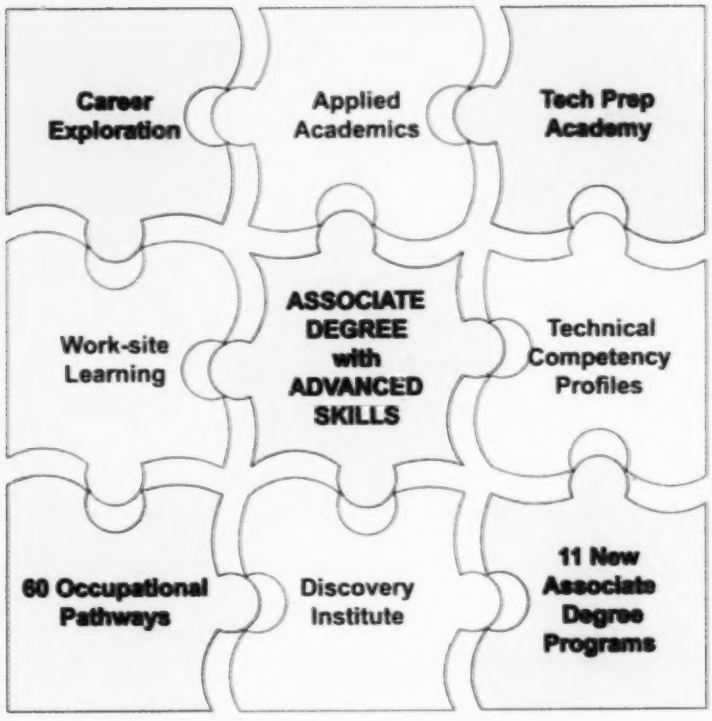
| | % Female | % Male |
|---|---|---|
| Arts and Communications | 36 | 64 |
| Business and Management | 40 | 60 |
| Environmental and Agricultural Systems | 53 | 47 |
| Health Services | 90 | 10 |
| Industrial and Engineering Systems | 9 | 91 |

# GOAL 3

Ensure that teaching and learning reflects the needs of all students.

## PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL 3

**Meeting the Teaching and Learning Needs**

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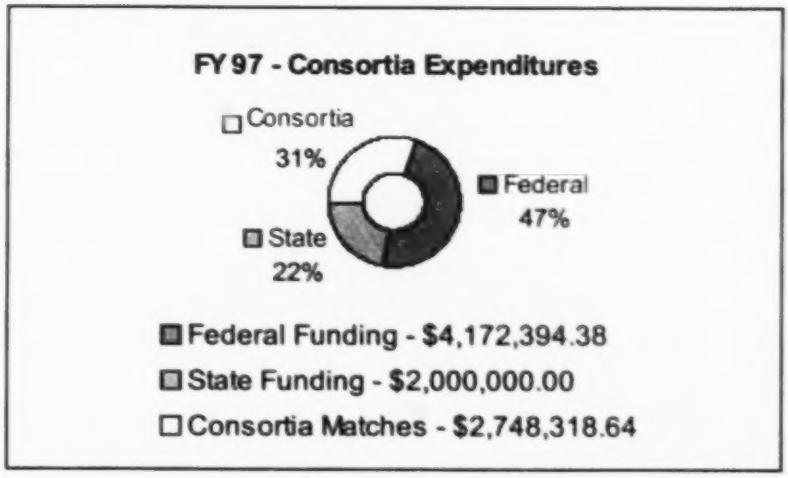
# GOAL 4

Maximize the opportunities afforded by all relevant initiatives, resources, and participating partners.

## PROGRESS TOWARD GOAL 4

### Consortia Resources

- Apprenticeships
- Businesses and Industries
- Eisenhower Grants
- Employers
- EnterpriseOhio
- Externships
- Internships
- Labor Organizations
- National Science Foundation
- Ohio Department of Development Grants
- Ohio Department of Education Grants
- School-to-Work
- College Scholarships
- Tuition Reimbursement
- U.S. Department of Education Grants



## TECH PREP NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- Columbus State Community College received the 1999 *Best in Nation Tech Prep Parnell Award* presented by the American Association of Community Colleges.

- Miami Valley Tech Prep Consortium's Automotive Mentorship Program received the 1998 *Exemplary Worksite Learning Award* presented by the National Tech Prep Network.

- Lakeland Community College received the 1998 *Best in Nation Tech Prep Parnell Award* presented by the American Association of Community Colleges.

- Ohio is one of six states represented on the National Tech Prep Network Advisory Board for the 1997 - 1999 term.

- Sinclair Community College received the 1996 *Best in Nation Tech Prep Parnell Award* presented by the American Association of Community Colleges. The U.S. Department of Education presented the *Excellence in Tech Prep Education Award*.

# TECH PREP STATE RECOGNITIONS

- Mahoning Area Tech Prep Consortium, Engineering Technology, "Universal Snyder Jaw" received the 1998 Ohio Tech Prep Showcase *Governor's Award - Best in Show.*

- EHOVE Career Center and Bowling Green State University - Firelands College, "Partnership Nets College Credit for Tech Prep Students" received the 1998 BEST *Seeds of Change Award.*

- Upper Valley Tech Prep Consortium, Business Technologies, "Small Business Management" received the 1997 Ohio Tech Prep Showcase *Governor's Award - Best in Show.*

- Heart of Ohio Tech Prep Consortium, Franklin Heights High School, "The Bulls-Eye Model: An Integrated, Thematic Approach to Curriculum Development" received the 1997 BEST *Seeds of Change Award.*

- Marion Technical College's World Class Service and Production Program received the 1994 *Ohio Governor's Workforce Excellence Award.* The Whirlpool Corporation presented the *Gold Corporate Quality Award.*

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